

Locations where fossils have been found

Borealosuchus

Common Name:
Crocodile

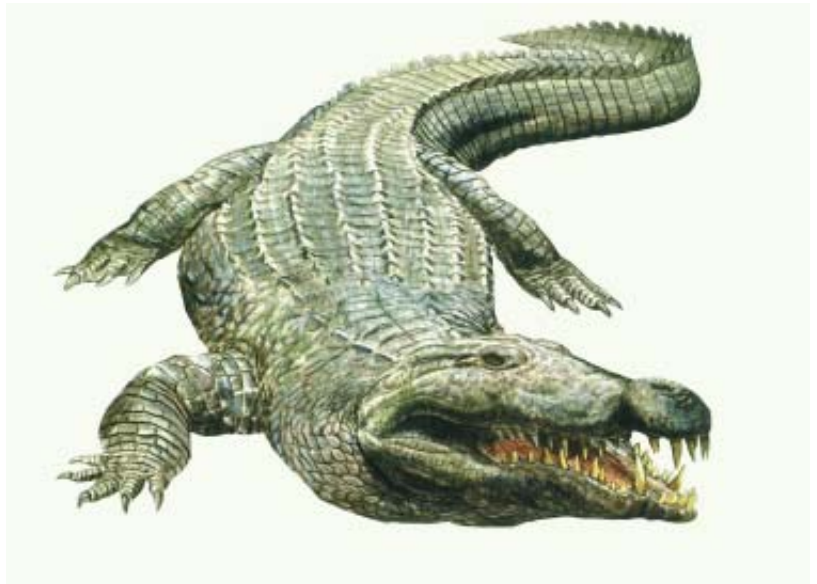
Classification:
Class: Reptilia
Order: Crocodylia
Family: Crocodylidae



Partial upper jaw of *Borealosuchus*. Length 150 mm. North Dakota State Fossil Collection ND 211.1.

Description:

Borealosuchus was similar in appearance to the living crocodile. They grew to lengths of 15 feet. *Borealosuchus* inhabited ponds and swamps in North Dakota during the Paleocene about 60 million years ago. At that time, western North Dakota was a hot, humid subtropical lowland that contained huge swamps. The climate was similar to that of Florida today. Fossils of *Borealosuchus* have been recovered from many sites in North Dakota. At one site, called Wannagan Creek, in Billings County, the remains of about 60 skeletons have been found. They were the main predators that lived in North Dakota during that time and preyed on turtles, fish, and other animals.



Borealosuchus. Painting courtesy of Simon and Schuster Publishing Company.